

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Purpose: The Department of Justice (DOJ) protects the citizens of Montana through enforcement of civil and criminal laws and programs designed to provide public safety.

Authorities: MCA - **Title 2:** Chapter 15, Parts 104 & 2005; Chapter 17, Part 306; **Title 19:** Chapter 6, Part 612; Chapter 7, Part 101; **Title 44:** Chapter 2, Parts 3, 111, 115, 503; Chapter 3, Part 301; Chapter 10, Part 201; **Title 46,** Chapter 23, Part 505; **Title 53,** Chapter 6, Part 156 and **Title 61,** Chapter 8, Part 404.

Roles & Responsibilities:

Office of the Attorney General

- As the Chief Legal Officer, render opinions that have the power of law. [*Coordination*]

Forensic Science Division

- Provide laboratory support to law enforcement agencies involved in a criminal investigation. [*Technical Assistance*]
- Provide mortuary support and other state pathological assistance (i.e. victim identification, cause of death). [*Public Health/Safety – Health, Medical & Mortuary*]

Information Technology Support Division

- Provide secure communication to the law enforcement community via the Criminal Justice Information Network (CJIN). [*Law Enforcement*]
- Disseminate warning or watches to local, state and federal agencies via CJIN. [*Communications - Warning*]
- Provide assistance with the control of information regarding unidentified living persons via the unidentified person file of the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) through CJIN. [*Public Health/Safety – Health, Medical & Mortuary*]
- Set up temporary teletype communication system for law enforcement. [*Law Enforcement*]

Legal Services Division

- Research legal opinions, represent state agencies in legal matters and define the constitutionality of state laws. [*Technical Assistance*]

Gambling Control Division

- Provide additional criminal investigators as necessary. [*Law Enforcement*]

Division of Criminal Investigation

- Provide investigative support to local law enforcement or sister state agencies. *[Law Enforcement]*
- Provide support in determining the cause and origin of fires or explosions. *[Technical Assistance]*
- Provide accelerated training at the Montana Law Enforcement Academy (MLEA) in support of augmenting state law enforcement capabilities. *[Law Enforcement]*

Montana Highway Patrol

- Provide assistance with traffic and access control. *[Public Health/Safety – Safety]*
- Coordinate with the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) to maintain highway operability. *[Transportation]*
- Provide patrol officers to assist local law enforcement. *[Law Enforcement]*
- Provide aerial transportation and observation. *[Technical Assistance]*